

O R E G O N

# COMMENTATOR

the election issue

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a journal of opinion



*the election issue*



Founded Sept. 27th, 1983 Member Collegiate Network

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# Mission Statement

The Oregon Commentator is an independent journal of opinion published at the University of Oregon for the campus community. Founded by a group of concerned student journalists on September 27, 1983, the Commentator has had a major impact in the "war of ideas" on campus, providing students with an alternative to the left-wing orthodoxy promoted by other student publications, professors and student groups. During its twenty-three year existence, it has enabled University students to hear both sides of issues. Our paper combines reporting with opinion, humor and feature articles. We have won national recognition for our commitment to journalistic excellence.

The Oregon Commentator is operated as a program of the Associated Students of the University of Oregon (ASUO) and is staffed solely by volunteer editors and writers. The paper is funded through student incidental fees, advertising revenue and private donations. We print a wide variety of material, but our main purpose is to show students that a political philosophy of conservatism, free thought and individual liberty is an intelligent way of looking at the world—contrary to what they might hear in classrooms and on campus. In general, editors of the Commentator share beliefs in the following:

- We believe that the University should be a forum for rational and informed debate—instead of the current climate in which ideological dogma, political correctness, fashion and mob mentality interfere with academic pursuit.

- We emphatically oppose totalitarianism and its apologists.

- We believe that it is important for the University community to view the world realistically, intelligently, and above all, rationally.

- We believe that any attempt to establish utopia is bound to meet with failure and, more often than not, disaster.

- We believe that while it would be foolish to praise or agree mindlessly with everything our nation does, it is both ungrateful and dishonest not to acknowledge the tremendous blessings and benefits we receive as Americans.

- We believe that free enterprise and economic growth, especially at the local level, provide the basis for a sound society.

- We believe that the University is an important battleground in the "war of ideas" and that the outcome of political battles of the future are, to a large degree, being determined on campuses today.

- We believe that a code of honor, integrity, pride and rationality are the fundamental characteristics for individual success.

Socialism guarantees the right to work. However, we believe that the right not to work is fundamental to individual liberty. Apathy is a human right.

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my election runs on dreams

# the writing on the wall

"an election is coming universal peace is declared  
and the foxes have a sincere interest in  
prolonging the lives of the poultry."  
-t.s.eliot

There's this weird assumption floating around that we at the Oregon Commentator somehow enjoy covering the ASUO. Then again, there's an even weirder assumption that we cover the ASUO in order to further an agenda of racism. Although we have dedicated a near record number of magazine pages and blog posts to the misadventures of our elected leaders this year, we have not done so for the sake of our personal entertainment, let alone for some nefarious racist agenda. No, we torture ourselves with the numbing minutiae of ASUO fiscal policy and political chicanery for the simple fact that we believe in what we are doing. We believe in the ideals (if not always the practice) of democratic government, and the goal of our ASUO coverage is to help foster an environment in which these ideals are more fully realized than they typically have been on our fair campus. Let's face it, the ASUO's history is riddled with attempted censorship, conflicts of interest, single digit voter turnout, rampant political blackmail, and an outdated budget process. These problems aren't about to fix themselves, and simply voting for candidates who promise reform is no guarantee of improvement either.

The ASUO is often touted as "a training ground for the political leaders of tomorrow," but rarely is the point made that the ASUO provides an even better opportunity to become an engaged citizen. In an age where government is seen as increasingly remote, and where public life seems increasingly managed, involvement with the ASUO provides an opportunity to learn the skills and confidence necessary to influence political and bureaucratic systems. Because this is the elections issue, we could just tell you to vote, except for the fact that voting accomplishes little to nothing. Let's get a few things straight: First, every candidate on every campaign trail in history has lied through their buffed, polished, and message-managed teeth. Second, voting for a candidate does nothing to convey your political priorities. Third, after a candidate gets elected they are just going to do whatever the hell they want anyway. If you share our commitment to an open, rational climate in the ASUO, then voting alone won't be enough. Students need to demand accountability and monitor their representatives actions in a firm, ongoing manner.

Needless to say, the rewards for this kind of involvement are dubious. If you believe in spending student money responsibly, there's a chance you might be called a racist. If you file a grievance against a Senator who obviously has no regards for the rules and procedures of government, you may well be invited to kiss said Senator's ass. What can one expect in an environment where equating fiscal responsibility to racism is an accepted political tactic? One can find some comfort in the fact that these spurious rhetorical attacks take place behind closed doors rather than in a public forum, but they still happen. Accusations of racism are simply thrown around to exploit ethnic or "racial" divisions politically, and no thought is given to explaining how the accusations are in any way valid. Unfortunately, these attacks are not simply unsupported; they are also poisonous and anti-progressive-- in every sense of the word. By crying racism without giving any explanation, Senator Gulley and those who echo his words in the student unions are inflaming ethnic divisions where none exist, and thereby poisoning the political environment. That anyone, let alone self-described "progressives" are so quick to inflame such an emotional issue for a few hundred dollars of funding, is beyond reprehensible. If there is a good explanation for these accusations, we would sure like to hear it. Maybe Senator Gulley would like to explain the whole thing to us himself. Our email is always ready, so sound off to [ocomment@uoregon.edu](mailto:ocomment@uoregon.edu)

"OC"

editorial

# Sudsy: Green

GREEN IS SEXY

New Sudsy Tees  
are here...

and they're green!

To get yours send ten dollars to:

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Eugene, OR 97403



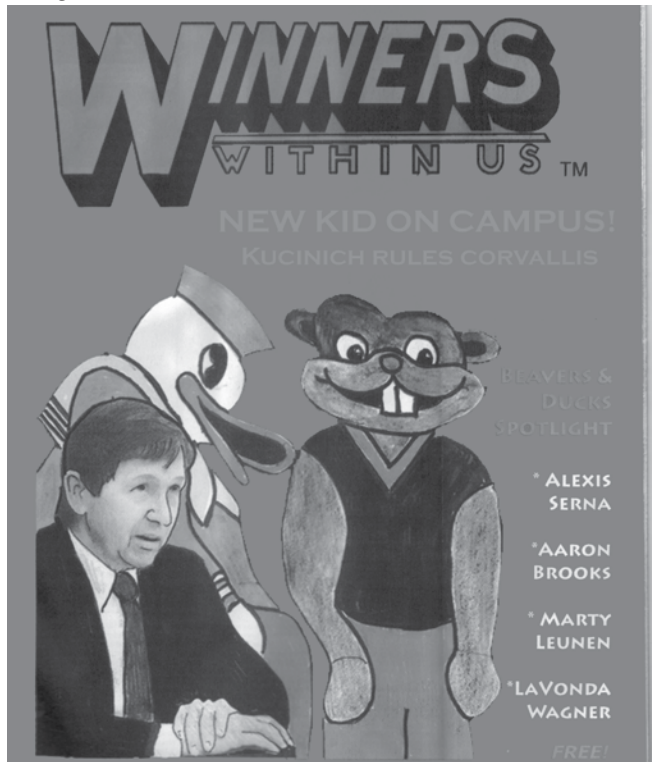
# BREAKING NEWS

## OSU REPLACES BEAVER WITH DENNIS KUCINICH

Student poll reveals "Twat" far more popular as mascot than "Beaver."

Corvallis- After surprising results from a student opinion poll, Oregon State University has replaced it's Beaver mascot with former Presidential candidate and Good Luck Troll(tm) Dennis Kucinich. "This is a good move for us," said Provost of Mascot Affairs Mack Girardo, "with the Beaver we were just hinting at what this campus is all about, but Kucinich really nails it." Winners Within Us (tm) magazine first broke the news, quoting Kucinich as saying "Man I needed this paycheck. Now I can buy back my belly jewel from the pawnshop, and get on with my magic, troll Department of Peace campaign (tm)."

*Below: Winners Within Us magazine scoops us big time on the story of the year. On another note, our ethics advisor wants us to disclose that WWU is a "real magazine," and that we "changed a headline." That is all.*



## STUDENT REC CENTER SCAMS ITS WAY TO BALANCED BUDGET

Global Diet Pill Pyramid Scheme Boosts Troubled Budget Back Into The Black

**ADMINISTRATION DECLASSIFIES DOCUMENTS ON CAMPUS PUB "CLANCY THURBERS" SHUTDOWN**  
Records indicate Frohnmayer cut off one too many times.

**"NICE WEATHER" SUED FOR INCITING INDECENT EXPOSURE**  
Christian Groups Decry "Immoral Influence"

**TRANSSEXUAL BRAZILIAN TRAPPED IN STRAIGHT WHITE MANS BODY**  
Incidental Fee-Funded Rescue Operation Underway

**POST-SOPHISTICATION ALL THE RAGE WITH THE KIDS**  
"Things Have Gotten Out Of Control," Admits One Kid



# COMMENTATOR COUPON

Good for a few things you should know by now

Contrary to popular belief, tin foil acts as an adequate prophylactic in a pinch. Lube is recommended.

3 floors in Deady equals 5 floors in PLC

It is best to use cash to purchase alcohol and cigarettes if you wish to hide your growing alcoholism from your parents.

Your Scarface poster makes you about as cool as Ja Rule. Think about it.

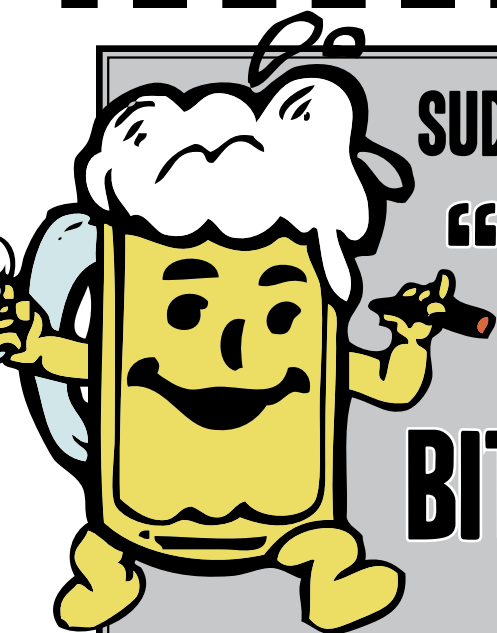
No matter how much you trust your roommate, he has used your soap bar to wash his ass.

Selling textbooks is a good way to make a quick buck. They don't need to be yours, either.

Sitting in public furniture can, in most cases, be considered sex by proxy.

If you feed the bums, they will come back. Please do not feed the bums.

Classes starting at 8:00am or after 4:00pm are generally tuition discounted. Use the savings to support a vice of your choosing. If your vice is alcohol, this won't work because you'll fail the class.



**SUDSY SAYS:  
"VOTE,  
BITCHES"**

## THE OC ASKS: WHY ARE YOU RUNNING FOR ASUO EXECUTIVE?



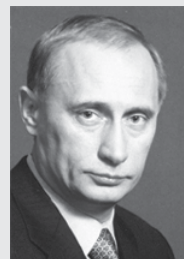
**Nate Gulley:** "Because as a Senator, I only have so many opportunities to violate ethics rules."



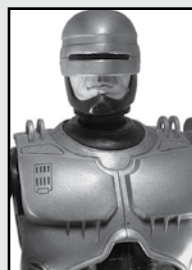
**Ann Coulter:** "Touch my adams apple... TOUCH IT!"



**Jared Axelrod:** Why am I what?? Noooooo....



**Vladimir Putin:** "Unabashed ethical violations, rampant corruption, 8% turnout... this is just my kind of democracy!"



**Robocop:** When the leaders choose to make themselves bidders at an auction of popularity, their talents, in the construction of the state, will be of no service. They will become flatterers instead of legislators; the instruments, not the guides, of the people."



# emily mclain and chii-sam sunowen

quality of living, access to education, academic quality

**OC: What groups are you involved with on campus besides the ASUO?**

SunOwen: I am co-director of the Asian Pacific American Student Union, and I'm on the Multicultural Center Board.

McLain: I'm on the University's Debate and Speech team, and I am the State Affairs Coordinator for the ASUO Executive.

**OC: How would you try to lower the incidental fee?**

SunOwen: I think the first thing is, like the responsibility part, is not necessarily cutting things drastically in the way that is sometimes viewed as necessary. What is (necessary) is going into negotiations with the administration such as the career center was. You know, taking, absorbing a section of their budget because it is something that the administration should be providing for students, therefore students should be going into negotiations with

the administration to absorb most of those budgets. Those are the greatest budgets we see. I mean the career center, the rec center. Obviously with the rec center we are seeing discussions now to solve the problem, but I would say the first thing is to negotiate with the administration and to critically look at those budgets without harming the services.

McLain: We also talked about how when it comes to the incidental fee, we realistically believe in and care about the services that it provides for students. Especially, the ones students enjoy and want to have. So when we go in to look at the incidental fee it's important like San said, that we're going to critically look at it, but we are going to value the services that it provides. Those are services that we care about. We also look at things like the incidental fees something extra students pay when students enter the university, but there are also lots of other fees that students pay that they don't even know about half of the time. For example, resource fees, program fees that

are attached to your tuition, to your Oregon Hall account after you add a class. After you register for a class you get a programmatic fee whether it's because you are undeclared, or because you are an architecture major. Those fees are not taken care of with your financial aid. Right now that is one of the issues I am working on in the state legislature, and I think the fees that aren't talked about, the fees outside of the extra incidental fee because there are other extra fees that aren't really part of the discussion yet.

**OC: You mention in your platform that you two have a relationship with the state legislature. Can you elaborate on that a little more?**

McLain: San and I have some unique experience when it comes to lobbying, grassroots organizing and campaigning. San on a more federal level, and myself more on a state level. Through being state affairs coordinator at the ASUO, I worked on the voter registration drive and the Get Out the Vote work during the November elections and since then have been in the capital doing lobbying, testimony, meet and greets, just lots of work with the Oregon Students Association which is a lobbying group. We are working on the resource fees there to try to make sure that students are not getting the short end of the stick, to make sure that students are being advocated for in the state legislature because it's amazing the numbers we turned out in November elections, and now we are a group that has a lot of bargaining power in the state legislature, which is fantastic and powerful for students. Power is a good thing when used well (laughs). So our relationship there is something that is unique and especially for the Executive because it is called out as being a responsibility of the Executive to advocate for students on a state and federal level. We are a voice and representatives for students.

SunOwen: My experience on the federal level is through the United States Student Association where I sit on the board of directors. We basically choose every year what we call action agendas, which are issues we think are important. Similar to what OSA does, they pick their priority issues, USSA does that as well. We generally focus on higher education and funding, like budget appropriations and the Higher Education Re-authorization Act. So my experience kind of goes around familiarizing myself with the federal budget and higher education and education as a whole. Lobbying, researching, where that funding is going and how it could be better put to use.

McLain: We both worked on access and affordability. It's kind of the theme of both those things. It's given us a kind of cool experience when it comes to all the issues that face our university.

**OC: How important is viewpoint neutrality and how it relates to the university?**

SunOwen: Viewpoint neutrality is something that is very big this year obviously. It comes up a lot. My understanding of course is not bringing in personal biases and objectively looking at budgets and issues that come across the table without bringing those personal biases.

McLain: I was just going to say that it is making sure every student group, and every collection of students is evaluated on the same level, and not criticized or funded because of the viewpoint that they hold. As long as it is helping a group of students do what it is they like to do, and it is contributing to the university in some way, you don't take away funding because of the opinions that group might hold. Of all the cases that have been heard and all the issues here at the university looking back to the Commentator itself or the Insurgent, It (viewpoint neutrality) is not how we evaluate you. We say this is educational. This is something that students here are learning about and doing.

**OC: How do you define diversity, and how it relates to campus?**

McLain: We think that when it comes to diversity plan, it's important to have a broad opinion base at the university because that builds a larger education and a more well-rounded education. That is the attempt of a diversity plan, to have people coming together and talking about the importance of having a broad opinion base, and having a broad experience base. Like, where people are coming from, and their backgrounds only add if you have a wider range of backgrounds and opinions which only adds to the discourse on campus.

**OC: Do you have personal definitions of diversity? Some people have a specific definition, others use a broader definition.**

McLain: I think that's the problem with the discussion itself that it is naturally, inherently and intrinsically broad. Your diversity might be different than mine, but I think the general broad definition of different opinions being present, different backgrounds being present is almost necessary to use because we all have different definitions. When you are looking at specifics...I don't know. I don't know if it is a good idea to pare down diversity.

SunOwen: I'm pretty much on the same line. You know everyone has their specific definitions of diversity but on the level we are on because of the broad opinion base we want to draw in; again it becomes tricky because when you narrow down diversity it obviously doesn't entail diversity.

**OC: Are you two running a slate, and why or why not?**

McLain: No.

SunOwen: We've decided to endorse candidates. Mainly because of what we were talking about earlier in relation to diversity. We want to endorse candidates that come from a broad range of opinions and making sure that we endorse candidates that we are confident in. (Candidates) That will be bringing their professional and very qualified experience to those positions.

McLain: We also want to look very critically at candidates. We want to talk with them about their opinions and talk to them about where they come from because we do believe in certain things and we do care about certain issues. So, when we talk to someone we are going to ask them what they think about student programs. We are going to ask them what they think about groups on campus in relation to the Incidental Fee. We will talk to them about their general communication style because one of the things we are looking for in candidates we endorse are candidates who will bring an improvement to fluid communication between the Executive and the Senate and the different groups on campus. That's one of the problems we see and so when we endorse candidates, and we come out in support of them, we are going to have done a lot of critical and discussions with them and thinking about that. But neither San nor I have run on a slate before and that was the decision that we wanted to make. That we would endorse candidates that seemed to align and bring a broad opinion base as well.

**OC: Could you clarify how endorsing candidates is different from a slate?**

McLain: Yeah, I would say that with a slate you're going to have a lot of cohesion when it comes to the exact same literature, colors... on those sort of simplistic kind of levels. It's a different kind of teamwork. The candidates we endorse will be running their own election their own campaign, and we'll be talking with them and we'll be telling people their names. Like if someone asks me who I think in this position, fill in the blank, I'll say who it is we have chose to endorse. Whereas with a slate, I would say this is my team and all the stuff is exactly the same.

SunOwen: It's the same messaging and stuff. When you work with a slate it's generally on the same message, promoting each other and promoting the ticket.

McLain: Whereas the people we endorse may have different opinions than us on certain issues, and so it won't be the exact same literature or the exact same platform. It will be different. We might be like, "Oh this candidate we really like... We think they might do a really good job.

We've disagreed on a couple things, but they are running a good campaign. We think they will be really good representatives in office and whether or not we disagree with them we will be able to communicate with them, and work with them towards a common goal which is making sure students have access and affordability in school, making sure students are able to come before the senate or the PFC when they want to start a new group and expand their experience at the university."

**OC: Would you consider endorsing members of other Executive candidates' slates?**

McLain: Yes.

OC: We're going to move on to specific platform questions now. Do you see LTD and the bus passes being a major campaign issue and a major issue during your term?

SunOwen: It's kind of became a big deal in the PFC process. We went in, and that's the deal with contract services in the first place, their contracts are negotiated in the spring and we find them in the winter term, so that makes it really hard. What we see with LTD that is important is negotiating with LTD soon enough to save students money and to preserve the same amount of bus passes. I see it as something that is important to at least keep in mind and maintain. That is something we definitely plan on doing because we don't want it to come up another year in the PFC process because "they got such a huge increase or such a huge budget. What's going on? Why?" So we see it as something coming up again and while we want to preserve those bus passes and the accessibility for students to ride the bus, we want to not increase the incidental fee or the LTD budget.

**OC: I have been surprised by how generous the administration has been in absorbing budgets, how much more do you think they'd be willing to help out? Is their more room to go in that direction?**

McLain: I'm optimistic. I mean a lot of the discussions right now with the administration have basically been positive. I think it's also probably as they view and hear second-hand the conflict happening in senate discussions, in our side discussions, when it comes to meetings about the recreation center or whatever. It's becoming an issue that they have to acknowledge and since we've had success we are going to go out for another chance at that.

**OC: Do you some of the relative success with the Oregon legislature increasing the amount of funds the University of Oregon has received in the last year has affected the administrations generosity?**

McLain: I don't know. I'm not sure if it's linked because

elections.com

they have received the funds yet or know where they are going or if the discussion is, is it going to go to capital construction? Is it going to go to the general fund at the university. We don't know where those funds are going, but I would like to say, at least on a student level, that those are wins and accomplishments in the state legislature because those are direct results of student lobbying. So, yes, I would say that it is a direct result of what's happening in Salem.

**OC: You touched on it a little bit, there's this monster that is the rec center. How do you plan on solving the problem if it can be solved?**

SunOwen: I think that the best bet right now is to allow Senate to work it out because I think that is the avenue where it can be solved. I think the executive can definitely play a part when it comes to researching and talking and participating in those discussions and supporting the solutions that are out there, but I think right now I think the best place for the solution to happen right now is senate. That doesn't mean the Executive can't play a big part.

McLain: So specifically, the discussions that are going on right now: moving the rec center from the incidental fee to the recreational fee, it sounds like there is a lot of consensus that it is a good idea. That's really great because the discussions have been really frustrating to a lot of people because there hasn't been a lot of action. We don't want it to be a campaign issue at this point because it's been a full discussion with everyone involved. It sounds like the advice they are getting from the health center and the advice they are getting from the faculty at the rec center is pretty good.

**OC: You mention in your platform literature the term "Departmental Accountability." Would you like to define that a little more?**

McLain: The discussion happening with the Oregon University System as well as the Oregon Students' Association, which I am a board member for, right now the resource fee is not explained to students. So like I said, there are fees for everything. It's actually kind of crazy. You can get a fee for being undeclared. There is a social science fee, a lab fee. You can get a fee for all sorts of things, and they are added and increased and tacked on with absolutely no accountability or transparency. So right now we have legislation before the state legislature that there are no new fees added and that a process made that explains how those fees are made and what they go to.

**OC: You mentioned lowering the price of books and working with the bookstore to do that. How do you plan to achieve lower book prices?**

McLain: There are lots of ways we can fix or at least improve the affordability of books. One thing I have been working on a lot this year is another piece of legislation that is in Salem right now that asks the text book manufacturers that they offer texts a la carte not bundled. Those bundled portions end up costing students another \$150 where often they don't use those. Usually it's a work book or a CD ROM and the truth is students want just the book because they are getting a lot of the supplemental stuff in class.

**OC: PFC reform. It is important? Is it something you'll work on if elected, and how?**

SunOwen: Yes it is important. Definitely coming from PFC, going through a whole term of seeing where things can be fixed or the flaws in the process, or the structure of PFC itself is definitely important. I don't know how ready senate is to figure it out right now obviously because we are going into elections and finals. I think it's definitely important, and something that we continue working on, and plan on the continuation of the discussion and actually implementing a reconfiguration of PFC process. But it also means looking at the finance committees in general, identifying the problems that everyone sees because we've had those discussions with the budget review committees and identifying the problems and having senators and executives working together as quickly and efficiently as possible, in the most positive way.

McLain: I would say that the key problem for everyone involved that means senate, members of the PFC, student groups and programs, the executive, is knowledge. There is a general lack of history and understanding of the process. It is one of the things that rang true and something I thought could be attacked quickly and easily. Making sure that students have access and understanding of the process would solve a lot of the conflict senate has faced this year, and while it doesn't address PFC reform, it would solve a lot of problems.





# ari lesser and phil wood

*we want more money invested in sustainability on campus, less given to the recreation center and reform of the department of public safety.*

*my name is ari lesser, i'm 20 years old, and i was born and raised in cleveland heights, ohio. i graduated from cleveland heights high school and i am now a junior at the university of oregon. i am currently working on my political science degree and i already have a minor in business administration. i write and perform intelligent, conscious and often political hip hop.*

*my name is phil wood and i am 20 years old. i am a fourth generation oregonian, born and raised in portland. growing up both my parents worked at a tv station and sparked my interest in film. i have an older brother, and older sister and a younger sister. my mother is one of ten kids from an irish catholic family in se portland. my family is huge and very close. i attended catholic school from kindergarten through senior year of high school. in high school i got involved in student government and held positions every year of high school and was elected to the oregon association of student councils state president. now i am a political science major at the university of oregon with an interest in giving back to the state that has given my family and me so much.*

**OC: Okay, first off, tell me about you guys. What is your platform? What are you hoping to accomplish?**

Lesser: There's a couple of issues that we're focusing on. The first thing is to increase sustainability on campus. That means everything from solar panels to biodiesel vans. That just makes sense because once you invest in, say, biodiesel vans, that just saves money for you in the long run. I feel like a lot of students on campus do care about their Earth and their environment. That's one issue: sustainability. Another one is DPS reform. I feel like DPS has no accountability and they are hired by someone that we have no say in, and I feel like there should be elections for DPS officers just like the President [and] senate. Those are all public positions; they all get elected for them. Students have more contact with the DPS officers than they do the senators. Why, then, do we not have a say in who those DPS officers are? I feel like their name should be on the ballot along with everyone else's. This person is on your campus in your face. Why don't you get to decide who he is. This is my home away from home, and I don't feel like having some stranger walking around my home.

**OC: What would you do, if anything, regarding the budget issues with the University? I mean, is there a problem with anything, fiscally speaking, and if so, what is it and how would you address it?**

Lesser: One of the main issues is the Student Recreation Center. I mean, it's been in the red for the last couple of years and it's ridiculous. It's just, totally, inappropriate and stupid the way student fees are funding it. I know there are better ways to make it more efficient. If there was a way to take money away from it and find a way to fund it through, like, donations, that would be better. We just need to make it more financially viable. They don't have any money and they are already building four brand-new tennis courts, and we have old tennis courts that nobody really uses. They waste a lot of money.

**OC: Ari, you write political rhymes and rap them in public. I have seen you in the fishbowl rapping your political rhymes and you list all of your lyrics on your Facebook page, which I went to and read. You're very vocal about a number of political issues, mainly criticism of the Bush administration and conspiracy theories regarding September 11th. Though these are your lyrics, I invite Phil to join in with any opinions, should he share the same opinions.**

Wood: Well, he's my running mate and we're friends. I've heard them all and I thoroughly agree with everything he has to say in them.

**OC: Alright, good. With regards to the Skull and Bones [editor's note: the Order of Skull and Bones is a secret society based at Yale University], you write that they are in control of everything in this nation; that they control the media, the government and many more aspects of society. You also suggest that they assassinated President McKinley, both Kennedy brothers, and attempted to assassinate President Reagan. They also, with help from the CIA, which is also controlled by the Skull and Bones, trade guns for drugs in unstable countries, so that the government can distribute them to Americans to keep them dulled, and hence, unaware of the massive conspiracy at hand. Isn't this a bit far-fetched?**

Lesser: Well... some of it is. Obviously, there is not evidence for a lot of this stuff. The Skull and Bones was actually founded on opium money. They used drug money to start this society. The founders were making a killing selling opium in China, so they used this money to start the society in Yale. So, I don't think it's so far fetched. And then, I don't think it's a secret that many of the people in the Skull and Bones go into the CIA. So when you compare the history of the Skull and Bones in China and also running the CIA, then it's not so far-fetched to believe that it's the same people doing it again.

**OC: Yale is a prestigious university. If you go there, you are very smart and very motivated. If you are a member of the Skull and Bones, you are also part of an elite class primed for success. You are smart, very rich, very powerful and equipped with great connections. Doesn't it seem more likely that Skull and Bones members, who are inherently primed for success, rise to high-level government and business positions based on their qualifications, rather than a massive conspiracy to appoint one another in powerful positions to control the masses?**

Lesser: Well, just look at the election in 2004. The only two possibilities for the most powerful position in the world, the President, were Skull and Bones members. There are only 15 people each year that become Skull and Bones members. There are under 1000 people in the world that are living Skull and Bones members, but yet the only two viable possibilities for the President were Skull and Bones members. That seems a little bit fishy.

**OC: You write, "Hussein had to go cause he tortured and gassed, Which seems pretty bad until you contrast, A US installment Abu Ghraib prison, Where undisputed acts of torture have arisen." My reading of this phrase suggests that you are suggesting that Saddam's genocide is similar to Abu Ghraib's humiliation and fear-invoking tactics when dealing with enemy combatants. Is this correct?**

Lesser: I am making a comparison. I mean, we are saying that we're going over there to liberate these people, and aside from the fact that 6,000 innocent people have died, we torture them. American soldiers are over there torturing innocent people that we are being told are being liberated. I mean, Saddam's genocide was obviously worse, when you look at it just by itself, but I think everyone would agree, that the people in Iraq would prefer peace under Saddam than living through the state of the war they're in right now.

**OC: I've always heard that the rules of war are established by the aggressors. We may be the invading force, but when it comes to torture and brutality, we are far less savage. We have numerous incidents of barbaric behavior from these people, which includes massive torture. We're not talking naked prisoner stacking or sleep deprivation, but cutting off of the head of suspected "infidels." Haven't the brutal nature of the Iraqi insurgents really prompted us to really think outside the box with regard to obtaining intelligence?**

Wood: We need to abide by the Geneva Convention[s]! We...

Lesser: We made these rules when we told everyone that this was a war of liberation. We told everyone that we are over there to help these people, not to kill them. The people of Iraq have not done anything to us.

**OC: Aside from assist enemy insurgents like villagers helped the Viet Cong.**

Lesser: Well, we are not going over there to kill them, we are over there to free them. That is what we said. We are telling people that and at the same time disregarding the Geneva Convention[s], torturing people, raping people, and obviously killing people. You can't help that in a war, but you can definitely stop raping and torture because that does not help a war cause.

**OC: Okay, switching gears a little bit. Obviously, you guys would favor a complete withdrawal from Iraq.**

Wood: We would get them out today. I mean, you know, as quick as we can.

**OC: Right. So, Sen. Barack Obama wants to remove troops by early 2008...**

Wood: Well, we're way more left than Barack Obama. [laughs] I mean, if your readers don't know that already, then...[laughs]

**OC: Right. So the question is, when dealing with a proposed plan for a quick withdrawal from Iraq, we must look at the fallout, right? If we pull out and Iran moves in, then we've successfully endangered not only ourselves, but the Iraqi people, which you guys obviously care a great deal about, as well as neighboring Middle Eastern countries and given Iran access to a great deal of oil. We can rest assured that we would not have access to such oil and we've given up a large chunk of the world's most economic resource to the Iranians, who hate us and are a threat to the free world.**

Lesser: George Washington said that America should avoid entangling alliances. We have strayed so far from that. We are being the world's policemen. It's not our job to draw borders and to fix these people's problems. We have major domestic issues that need fixing, and we are dropping money onto these countries in the form of bombs.

**OC: Iran is developing nuclear technology. Their basic attitude is, "We're doing it. If you don't like it, tough!" This is becoming more of a global issue rather than just a personal choice for Iran. Like the Cold War with the Soviet Union, their development of nuclear capabilities could mean annihilation. Do we not have a right to try and prevent this? I mean, we had a chance to prevent Hitler.**

Lesser: I would suggest that if we want Iran to quit their nuclear program, then we need to get rid of all of our nuclear weapons. Because otherwise we're being totally hypocritical. On an international level, each country is an individual. Shouldn't an individual be able to use its money as it wants? If we really think that no country should have any nuclear weapons, then why do we have the most? It's illogical to me to say that a country cannot have more nuclear weapons because they are more radical than us. Iran has never attacked the United States. The United States has attacked Iraq and has indirectly attacked Iran. We funded the Iraq-Iran war. So, Iran has a lot more to fear from America than we do of Iran.

**OC: Okay, how realistic is to say, "Okay, everyone, we're all going to put down our nuclear arms peacefully and nobody will have them anymore"?**

Lesser: How realistic is it to say that no country, other than us, can have nuclear arms? From what I understand, Iran won't be equipped with nuclear arms for another ten years anyway, so it's not like it's going down tomorrow.

**OC: Anything else you want our readers to know about your guys' campaign?**

Wood: We're not going to be using any flyers or posters. That is a lot of wasted paper, and every campaign we've seen always wastes so much paper. Regardless of whether you are using soy ink and recycled paper, you are still damaging the environment. We can just use word of mouth and the Internet. I think it would be very hypocritical of us, with the campaign that we're running, to advocate environmental responsibility and waste tons of paper.

"OC"

did you know...



that april 19th is  
"islamo-fascism  
awareness day"?

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# Jonathan Rosenberg and Avital Ostfield

Jonathan Rosenberg was born in southern California and grew up on Whidbey Island, Washington. He moved to Portland, Oregon at the age of fifteen to live with his father, where he attended Lincoln High School. When Jonathan entered the University of Oregon, he immediately became involved with Oregon Hillel, and later, volunteered for over a year with the assault prevention shuttle. During his freshman year, Jonathan was elected director of the Jewish Student Union, where he first discovered his passion for enriching cultural programming and campus student life. Jonathan is currently a junior political science and music major and serves as the ASUO senate vice president. Jonathan hopes to attend law school after his graduation in 2008.

Avital Ostfield is a psychology major at the University of Oregon. She grew up in St. Louis Park, Minnesota, and attended St. Louis Park High School, where she was an active athlete and graduated with honors. Upon entering the University of Oregon, Avital joined the Gamma Phi Beta sorority, where she has since become a dedicated member of the Greek community. Living in the dorms, Avital understands many of the issues facing underclassmen, and has a passion for solving these issues. She is currently attending the University of Oregon on a diversity scholarship.

**OC: Which Student groups are you involved in**

Rosenberg: I am involved with the ASUO, not really involved with any student unions this year. I work for DDS as a volunteer.

**Ostfield: None for me right now.**

**OC: How would you attempt to reduce the Incidental Fee?**

Rosenberg: That is a very good question. We are working on PFC reform process right now. It is something that we are very excited about. We want to do something that I think a lot of the candidates are talking about this year. You can't run for exec this year without talking about this issue. It is the big issue this year buzzing around the ASUO and it is to reform the PFC process in a way that divides contracts and services and programs into three different categories. We want to make sure the burden of growth is on contracts and not programs. That would be the main focus for us.

**OC: Do you have specific plans?**

Rosenberg: We would like to put it into two committees probably, maybe four. We are looking at different options for how we need to break up the committees. There is one way and it is doing a referendum. It is not going to be a process. I don't care what any campaign says, Avital and I have been talking about this a lot and this is not how we are going to do this. Would we want to have two or four committees? Would we want to do a referendum? Just try to get the Senate to work on some formulation of the Green Tape Notebook. That would be the quickest way, to work with the Senate. But I can not guarantee that. I think campaigns are very optimistic about this. The truth is it will be more than a year.

**OC: How do you define diversity at the University of Oregon?**

Rosenberg: Well, there are a lot of ways to define it. There is not one right definition, let me say that first of all. The second thing is that it is a way to bring in different students in from different backgrounds; ethnically diverse backgrounds, socioeconomicall diverse backgrounds. That's the goal behind diversity.

Ostfield: Internationally as well, not just within the United States. Just basically getting students from different places and talking about putting them together, and educating them.

Rosenberg: (to Ostfield) You're on a diversity scholarship correct?

**Ostfield: Yes**

Rosenberg: It's just very important that we are able to bring in different groups of students. Frankly I grew up in a neighborhood that was predominantly one group of people. The University opened up my eyes in a lot of ways just being able to work with student unions. Talk to students from various backgrounds, and they say the same thing: There is no diversity on campus.

**OC: How would you promote diversity on campus?**

Rosenberg: We want to create an all-inclusive diversity plan. Work on what past execs did basically. We want to work with what Juliana did with the committee: she was essentially trying to craft a plan. We are trying to work on past administrations, they really did a great job this year. They haven't gone too far with it, honestly, but I think it can be improved. It's just a matter of a few negotiations with the administration and allowing students to be updated on how this happens. "All-inclusive" is the key word here.

**OC: How do you feel about viewpoint neutrality**

Rosenberg: Viewpoint neutrality, it's a good thing, it's a great thing.

**OC: What does it mean for you?**

Rosenberg: What does it mean for me? Well I'll tell you what it means according to the law, it means that you can't allocate money based on content. Essentially we have to look at when allocating money at hard facts; numbers, attendance at events, fundraising, things like that. In fact you can actually be a viewpoint neutral wall by not looking at content, by looking at categories of content I think that can also be a creative way of controlling the growth of the fee. But I won't get into that it is a bigger issue.

**OC: What is your platform?**

Ostfield: Our three main points are cutting costs, expanding services, and building communities. Under cutting costs we have an idea about cutting costs of textbooks. We have a petition going around for people to sign. We also want to look at giving money back to students on a term by term basis because there is a lot of money that is over realized in terms of overshooting enrollment (estimates), money from the incidental fee that is just not being used and sitting in an account instead of going back to the student. We are not entirely sure how we want to do that, though we feel it's the student's money and they should be able to have it. Under expanding services, we are looking to make the Health Center better for students, more

vaccines like the HPV vaccine, flu vaccines, just subsidizing stuff like that so people do not have to go on public transportation to find another healthcare provider when the health center is on our campus. We should use it, and it should be everything that we need.

Rosenberg: This is something we both talked about a lot. Avital has a lot of friends in the dorms who are close to the health center but have issues with needing the HPV vaccine. Students don't even know about this vaccine. We don't have this availability and we don't have students that know about this.

Ostfield: We are also looking to create some kind of volunteer peer mentoring program where students will go to the health center and say volunteer for mentoring underclassmen who are having trouble with transition. Maybe take them out to lunch and talk about the University maybe make them feel more comfortable. There will be no issues with funding because it will be all on a volunteer basis.

**OC: Can we get back to your point on the over-realized fund, elaborate a little bit?**

Rosenberg: We both agree, that its in poor taste that we have money that is being given to the school and just sitting in bank accounts. It's embarrassing actually, and no one has really explored this. How can we give this money back? It obviously makes the student government more powerful to have a lot of money. It's bothersome how the senate wants to keep this money, they hate spending surplus. I have been going with this idea through talking about surplus with groups because we don't want to spoil groups or anything like that. We think this money belongs to the students, even the surplus. Actually, I would even

say surplus should go back to programs I would go as far to say that. The senate is doing nothing with it that's why I say that we can give back to the students and programs

**OC: Are you talking about giving the surplus back in terms of rebate, or in terms of the current system of special request?**

Rosenberg: The current system of special requests. I would encourage senate to be more judicial in how they give it away. I wouldn't say give more away, but we do give it away. If a person has a great special request or event, it should be given to them. There is no reason it should be sitting in a account. We should give it back to students.

**OC: Are you guys running a slate?**

Rosenberg: Yes. The Campus Improvement Movement. Our platform cut costs, improve services and build community. We want to bring an textbook exchange to campus similar to what they run at LCC and OSU, it save students hundreds of dollars on books a year. It will be easily accessible to students in the center of campus.

**OC: Anything else you would like to comment on?**

Rosenberg: Under building community we want to instal an "academic bill of rights." We want students to be able to stand up for themselves and have a sense of advocacy, like when students get accused of cheating when they are not cheating. We are also trying to get the book exchange on the ballot in the next few weeks, look out for that.

**"OC"**



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## *Ripping Off the ASUC*

### *Step 1*

*Start a student group. Pick a cause and run with it, regardless of how relevant it is to campus. Hell, educate your classmates on the plight of factory-farmed asparagus. Raise some awareness, hand out some fliers, whatever.*

### *Step 2*

*Find the group of Senators who are desperate to pander to student groups (they are easy to find), and promise to force all of your group members to vote for them in the upcoming election.*

### *Step 3*

*Write up some special requests for surplus funds. Take a trip, throw a catered party, or just get some free pizza for your film screening.*

### *Step 4*

*Relax. Your buddies on Senate will gladly approve your request, and accuse any one who opposes it of anti-asparagus hate crimes. Enjoy your trip / party / pizza with the knowledge that you didn't fork over a damn cent for it. After all, this is what the fee is for, right? And please, think of the asparagus.*

*Enjoy!*

*Oregoncommentator.com*



# Sara Hamilton and Athan Pappaliou

## campaign outline:

1. increase student accessibility to football and basketball games through electronic ticket distribution
2. create more student space in the emu and fund the building's deferred maintenance
3. reduce student fees by increasing earned revenue
4. provide a long-term, sustainable budget solution for the student rec. center
5. reclaim high quality and equal-opportunity education in a pragmatic way
6. restructure the outdated and inefficient student fee allocation process

**OC: The first question for each of you is what student groups are you affiliated with or have been affiliated with?**

Hamilton: Sure, Um, Ok. Lets start way back. Marching band, Oregon Marching Band. A lot of school music ensembles is where I spent my undergraduate years. So, I can name them if you want. Oregon Marching Band, Korean Ducks magazine. ASUO senate. That's more or less what I'm involved in.

**OC: Ok**

Papailiou: I am the vice-president of the Inter-fraternity council and a member of the Sigma Chi Fraternity. I was appointed to the ASUO senate my freshman year by Adam Walsh as the ASUO science senator. I ran and am fulfilling my first year as an academic senator. I work closely with the Asklepiads, Pre-med club, SACS, Undergraduate Research Club, as a head of representation in student government.

**OC: Cool. Lets talk about the incidental fee. Is the incidental fee at a sustainable level? Is it too high or too low? What actions can or should be taken regarding the fee?**

Hamilton: I think an important thing to understand, and most people don't get this, unfortunately, is that if people agree or disagree about this and that, or it is too high or too low you can't characterize (unintelligible) and people try to do stuff it really shows a lack of understanding of the process. Now, is it sustainable? At least from the EMU perspective absolutely not. This year our self-generated revenue, in order to stay up with mandated increases, is increasing by double digits. That means income we're generating by ourselves from food and stuff, we plan to jack that up more than 10 percent to make up and that is not sustainable without new facilities. I think it is a little high if you look at it. Just 15 years ago, we were at half of what the current fee is, as they just broke 100. Now we just broke 200. So if you think about the history of the I-fee, it has been around for more than 30 years but we've doubled in the last 15 years. So that is exponential growth. No one can deny the numbers. Now, one of the reasons for that is because of Measure 5, all the budget cuts made the state absolutely broke in 2003 and 2005. The administration all through the 90's started not funding services that weren't absolutely academically related and the students, I mean to great credit to them, they stepped up and said "We will fund this with the incidental fee." And I think that now that higher education is getting more money from the state of Oregon, it is absolutely within our right to go back to the administration and say, "Hey, we carried this when you guys were poor and now we're the ones who can't sustain our fee. You need to relieve some of the pressure from us." We saw some of that this year.

Papailiou: The Career Center. The administration picked up \$106,000 and that is a perfect example of how we fight down the fee but still allow for normal service level growth and program growth.

**OC: Cool. Lets talk about the PFC for a little bit. People seem to think that it needs to be reformed. What are your thoughts on that?**

Papailiou: So, I think what we saw this year was a huge problem in establishing a benchmark that would address the needs of our smallest student groups and some of the largest contracted services in the departments, because some of these groups face increases that are mandated by the state, such as minimum wage, gas prices, photo copy expenses, etc. We don't want to have these small budgets having to compete for the same dollars as these larger contracted services. We think there needs to be a separate process through a special negotiating committee to deal with the larger budgets so they can spend more time getting the best price for students. Stream line it through the ASUO executive, because the finance coordinator in the executive is the one who deals with these contracts in the spring and it needs to be streamlined through one process in the finance committee.

**OC: Is this kind of a reform thing something to leave on?**

Hamilton: Absolutely. I think the important thing to remember is that this is such a complex issue that we can't afford to have people to come in the office, learn their job and by the time they know how to achieve things to leave. We can't afford it, because what that creates is problems being passed down every single year. We fill that between our experience, actually more experience in budgeting than practically all the tickets combined we feel we can bring that experience to actually make changes come around and take a leave on that.

Papailiou: PFC is a 15 year old out-dated process and it needs to be revamped.

**OC: Is that it?**

Hamilton: He mentioned two things: splitting contracts and streamlined negotiations. The third thing I would add is the human resource factor. We've essentially doubled our money per dollar we allocate in 15 years, but the amount of people working on these budgets has not increased at all. I think that like leads to poorly made decisions.

**OC: Viewpoint neutrality. What does it mean to you both? How would your administration view viewpoint neutrality and act on it?**

Papailiou: I think viewpoint neutrality is part of the whole, to be fair and to be honest and not to let your personal beliefs in organizations dictate your decisions making abilities. I think Sara and I are committed to that fairness as public servants right now and will continue to do if elected to the executive.

**OC: Diversity. How do you define diversity? What is, in your view, the diversity situation on campus? Some people say we're in crisis, others say everything is fine. How does your ticket view the diversity issue?**

Hamilton: Diversity and me is a very complex issue too. I think it goes beyond racial, ethnic, cultural lines. It's the differences between us as human beings. Socioeconomic, religious, political, I mean age difference. Differences have always existed. We just now have a word for it, right? I think the key is that there are human differences, which makes it a human problem. One of the big criticisms I have of the diversity plan right now is that it really tries to address it in an institutional channel. I think that only limited success can come out of an institutional ways of addressing it without acknowledging that it can only be handled through dialogue. Sitting down and actually being taught in embracing people different than you, or reaching out in your community, that is something individual people have to make decisions to do. It isn't something institution can force about. Although, the institution is an important factor in making humans make individual decisions about that.

**OC: There has been some discussion in some corners in the ODE that maybe slates are less than democratic. First, are you guys running a slate and second how do you feel about slates in general?**

Papailiou: Sara and I are running with a group of candidates that support our platform and are part of a larger campaign for change to make the ASUO more efficient and effective organization. I think what Sara and I have seen this year as sponsors of much of the legislation that's gone through the student senate is that we need all branches of the student government to be on board with moving forward. If we want to really fix the EMU, which is part of our platform. If we really want to change the PFC process, and really want to implement the electronic ticket distribution, we need to get all parties on board. This isn't to say that other candidates aren't qualified at all. We had an open invitation for all students on campus to join our campaign. We had a press conference, we had leaflets, we had fliers, and we had a ton of people come to us wanting to join, and we had a limited number of seats. That shows the momentum behind this movement. We really recognize we need to get all parties on board so the moment we start on May 25th we're making change.

Hamilton: I think slates, I mean our slate obviously, is something unprecedented in ASUO history. We actually opened it up to people I don't know, Athan doesn't know, people that no one really knew. Just that they heard about a slate and said we want to run. I think there is a real importance in this and when slates run, it virtually knocks out the independent candidates. Which is a great thing, because if people want to win these days, you unfortunately have to be part of a bigger movement. The thing about slates is that they usually only invite their friends, people that share their ideologies, people that will be loyal. We're not asking any of that from our slates. We are providing kinda a forum for independent candidates to get back into the ASUO.

**OC: What is in your minds, the single greatest issue facing the ASUO in the next year and beyond the next year?**

Hamilton: We're going to go over three things that are priority problems. Although our platform outlines six big issues we are interested in immediately. Lets start with the EMU. The EMU master plan was created in 2003 and it is not yet funded. Meanwhile there is seven million dollars in deferred maintenance. I think that this is really an emergency. I think last fall or winter, it rained so hard that the roof started leaking and the whole place flooded. That is how back logged the maintenance is, and that is absolutely unacceptable. This is a student building and it was closed for four months because the roof was broken. I think that is an emergency. The master plan, if funded, would help improve retail design, so we could greatly increasing rental income, buy down the fee, get out of the spending rat race. It would also create more programming and office space another emergency we have on this campus. Because the EMU. Do you know how many it was built for? 14,000. Do you know how many we have now? Over 20,000. So, the student building I don't think is serving the students. It is going to become the point, We're getting to that point now, we just can't sustain ourselves anymore.

Papailiou: The building design is not cost effective at all. We spend over 200,000 dollars a year on electricity costs. The windows are still single pained and the circulation system is so poor. We need to invest in the building in order to make it more efficient and well run.

Hamilton: I think it is an emerging crisis. We plan to sponsor a ballet measure in April 2008 that would get the funds necessary to pay off some of this maintenance, fix the roof so they don't collapse. Things like that.

**OC: Ok, number two?**

Papailiou: I think this year, the budget process has been

elections 2007

a problem. It's just that because of the high turnover in the ASUO, it resurfaces every three or four years. Like we mentioned earlier the PFC was created over 15 years ago and what we're seeing right now is a real need to devote more time and energy to our larger budgets so that our smaller student groups aren't competing for the same dollars as the larger organizations and contract services. This is a long process, and this isn't going to happen in a month. We're going to have to continue our review groups and get people on board and people involved in this process. But we are committed to separating contracted services and departments from student groups because then they won't compete for the same dollars and so we can have two benchmarks.

Hamilton: One of the last things, not so much a crisis, but something that needs to be address probably soon and that is the way tickets are distributed. Right now the ASUO has very little information, you'd be surprised and the only thing they use to base purchases for football, basketball tickets, is right now. The ASUO bought 5700 tickets per football game last season and up to a 1000 tickets are unused, sold, scalped or thrown away and the ASUO doesn't even know what happened to them and that's a real problem because each one of those tickets represents a student that did not get to go to the game because someone lost or scalped a ticket. One of the ways we can address that is though getting on board (unintelligible) with electronic ticket distribution. What that would do is help us track information and also allow people to forfeit their ticket without penalty online, so it could go to the next person on the waiting list.

**OC: Cool. That is all the questions I have is there anything else you guys want to talk about?**

Hamilton: Sure, I think there are a few things that make us capable or more qualified for this office and that is our experience. We bring more experience to this ticket than all the other tickets combined in areas that are most important, like budgeting, legislative process.

Papailiou: I represent the more academic side. I've been involved in University Senate. Now I'm the only candidate that's been on University Senate. I have the experience to understand like what university committees do, what decision-making abilities do they have, do we have representation on them. That's actually been a really big problem this year because some of these committees aren't meeting anymore. They're extinct and it's the executive that is responsible for coordinating getting senators on these committees and having seen that problem that is what I can bring to the executive is making sure we have students on every university committee that the president establishes. These committees make some of the

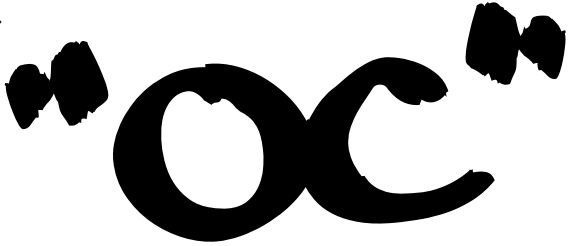
most important policies that most students don't know about. Campus Spending Committee makes all the decisions were buildings can go, heights of buildings, policy. Scholarship Committee sets criteria for general university scholarships. I mean this is what if we're talking about university policy changes it happens in these committees and if people aren't familiar with them and understand how they are organized change won't happen.

Hamilton: Our experience also goes beyond campus politics. I worked in Salem both as a lobbyist for students and then I actually worked on the other side as an intern in Salem for a state representative.

Papailiou: I worked with the Lake Oswego City Council one year and also served Bookstore Board of Directors. I currently serve on that now and having been on that and worked with the board since last spring I've kind of seen textbook battle fought on all ends. I think it is great that there is such a high spirit to try and lower textbook prices, because they're extremely expensive. But, I think the battle is being fought on the wrong end. What we need to do, and what I've worked on as a member of the board of directors of the bookstore, is working with professors to have them stop adopting new editions of the text. Working with professors to not order the bundled books from the publishers and working with professors to order less expensive textbooks. Lastly, which is really a new idea, is asking publishers to make custom textbooks for this university. Because, we're a quarter system school a lot of the textbooks are not designed for the UO. They're designed for semester schools and the curriculum is different. The school business has taken steps to create customized textbooks. I think that something we could move in all departments to save students money. Book exchange programs won't work if the books aren't currently being used by the professors so the problem starts with getting faculty educated and Sara and I committed to doing that.

Hamilton: The last thing I should say is that the best way you can judge our future actions is to look at our history. We've both have had pretty long histories on campus and the ASUO, all documented. So, the best way to judge is to look what we've done for students so far. We've committed most of our college career to that and use that to judge how we're going to be good servants next year.

Papailiou: We're excited to run. As much work as this is we enjoy what we do and want to work as the exec next year.





# ty schwoeffermann and paul kammerzelt

the x factor is ty schwoeffermann and paul kammerzelt. we are the x factor because we are not asuo insiders. we are students first. we are activists second. we are committed to making the university of oregon better for students overall. we are the future president and vice president for the associated students of the university of oregon. x factor: join the equation.

i am driven by injustice, inequality, and love for all people. i am running on a 12 cylinder engine, my fuel is knowledge. my sister irene is my inspiration. my mom is my teacher. "the time is always right to do what is right" dr. mlk jr.

you may not know:

i started a business with my brother tamu called hawthornechairs.com, we built and sold fine wood furniture for 5 years, selling of 150 chairs and accessories. placed fourth place in a business venture competition at uo's school of business.

i was an athlete in cleveland high school home of the mighty warriors. i got 12 varsity letter. i still own the portland interscholastic swim league district meet record in the 50 yards freestyle in 22.65 seconds, \*10th place at state \*03\*. i didn't graduate from middle school, failing 8th grade. my mom and sister immigrated from the commonwealth of dominica, in the west indies. i got my first "a" grade in college in my third year of studies, in martin summers african american history class. my black writers w.e.b. dubois, stockley carmichael and charles hamilton, frantz fanon, assata shakur, and frederick douglas

## **OC: What groups are you involved with on Campus?**

Schwoefferman: First of all, freshman year I got involved with the RHA. Then two years later I got involved with activism on campus, especially on issues dealing with discrimination. There is a group called UO Action that dealt with the issues at the College of Education where some students experienced some extreme discrimination. They felt a need to publicize it and make an issue of it to force the College of Education to change its practices. So we held rallies, a sit in...I was heavily involved in that. From there, the next year I got involved with the ASUO student government under Adam Walsh, which I was a multicultural advocate. Then I got involved in the United States Student Association. They have a committee or caucus for people of African-American descent so I got elected to the board. Meanwhile, I started getting involved with the Black Student Union, which is one of the biggest groups on campus. This year I took a shift and went off campus at Jefferson Middle School. I wrote for the Emerald for a few months. I know some students were advocating for me to quite my job as a writer so I retired there, and continue my activism in other ways. I was also on the committee to write the diversity plan.

Kammerzelt: As far as just organizations on campus I have been involved with the Black Student Union, the African Student Association and the MCC a little bit. I am also involved in the community. I work at a tutoring center, and I volunteer Friday evenings at Nuestro the Art Teen Center. My time hasn't been spent just on the university, but also outside of the university.

## **OC: Are you guys running a slate?**

Schwoefferman: No were not. It's not that we are completely against slates. I am for a diversity and political balance in ideologies. I really believe that there should be as much representation as there are students who hold those ideas. So it's really exciting this year to see that there is more than one slate, not that one slate should win. I think there should be a variety of students winning from these different slates so that we can see these slates are representing different political ideologies. I feel that the political process would benefit from more voices.

## **OC: If there were one thing you would say the ASUO faces today what do you think that would be?**

Schwoefferman: Obviously, the rising student incidental fee. The costs of education in general are so ridiculous, and the funding is still going down. The state of Oregon has not found a way to manage its money so that students become a priority. So that's going to become a big issue because the student fee is managed by students, and the

ASUO should be responsible for increasing the amount of cost of the amount of debt that students face.

## **OC: Do you have a particular plan or way to handle the incidental fee?**

Schwoefferman: It's incredibly complex obviously because there are so many programs that offer, like (The Commentator), voices need to be represented on campus. We have the ethnic student unions which are great retention and recruitment unions. So these programs are obviously very important. Then there are the contracts, which are a very touchy and difficult subject because we obviously have legal binds. So negotiations are a very technical matter. Then we have construction things; we have debts. Things we can't really get out of. It's very difficult to say year to year where we can make the cuts. The most feasible place to make cuts in one year is in programs. However, I don't think that is the right thing or where we need to make the cuts. I think we should get in more productive talks with some of the debts we are in. We need to get in more technical discussions and find ways in which we can alleviate some of these debts.

## **OC: Viewpoint neutrality. How important is it? What does it mean to you, and how will you integrate the idea into your presidency if elected?**

Schwoefferman: Well, first of all I believe in lobbying. I don't necessarily think that the group of students with the loudest voice should get their way in every situation. However, I do believe that the people who are electing officials are more politically active, more politically aware. So if they're lobbying for certain issues, I believe that is okay because the senators are accountable to these people that elected them. I think viewpoint neutrality is a term we throw around a lot, but I don't think we know what it means. I think viewpoint neutrality is a term we should think about and use, but we should weigh it not just at the vote or the senate meetings, but we need to weigh it on what are people's opinions before the vote, and what are there motivations.

Kammerzelt: I agree. I think the whole democratic process is representing the people, not carrying around personal agendas.

## **OC: So since we are talking about this issue of accessibility, what can the ASUO do to make themselves A: more transparent, and B: to really increase participation and voting turnout?**

Schwoefferman: That's a difficult question, every administration faces that. I mean even in national politics this is a difficult question. It is a winner takes all process in our

democratic process. I don't think it should be like that, but I think presidents like Adam Walsh really made strides in this to where he hired the other candidates who were running against him. I think it was very bold and dangerous, but in a way it changes that whole trend. I think the winner should be representative of all the elections, of all these views. That can potentially make it more accessible, however in general, politics is a subject a lot of people don't want to discuss. In my view, politics is life. I have no intention of stopping being political even if I am not elected. I believe in the policies of Malcolm X, "It's either the polls or the bullet." We don't really have the choice, as black people, to not be involved with the politics of this country because the politics have such a history of working against us. However, I think a lot of people can be absent from politics and still be content with the way things are going because maybe the system was developed to support them.

Kammerzelt: I think the problem is not enough students are aware of what it is or what it does. That's why we only have 10% of the people voting, no one knows. They might feel that it doesn't affect them or that it might be working for them, so if nothing's going bad why do they need to worry about it. So that's why the student unions are stepping up and being so involved because they feel how important it is.

**OC: What is the state of diversity on campus? Are things okay? Is there a crisis? Where do you stand?**

Schwoefferman: First of all I think it's the way you framed the question. You may think there's a crisis or there isn't, but I think the real question is have we really integrated the people that live in this country into this school. Black people have only really had access to this school for 50 years. The first person to graduate from here was in '41. This school has been around for over 100 years. I think the real question is is there access, first. Well you can say, if you look at the demographics, "we've come a long way," but we really haven't. I think we need to think of this as a communal problem. I don't think it's an individual level problem where you can ask, "How do you feel about diversity?" You need to say, "How does this community feel about diversity?" Then you can begin to get a bigger picture of what's going on on this campus. As long as there are students who feel a strong sense of a hostile environment on campus, you will not of a community working and functioning at its full capacity.

Kammerzelt: Everyone benefits because everyone brings in a different experience. Everyone has a different back or culture, different ideas. And going with the political process, democracy is supposed to be representative of all

that, and the fact is there are people on this campus who don't feel safe. Who don't feel represented; who don't feel comfortable because they stick out everywhere they go. That's a problem because if they don't feel safe then they aren't getting the best education they can. So when we talk about access to the university, we aren't just talking about getting in, we are talking about recruitment and retention.

**OC: So then is the diversity plan enough? Is it doing the right things?**

Schwoefferman: The diversity plan was a great compromise. It is a lot like affirmative action in that the people who passed affirmative action knew it was a compromise, but understood there was more work to be done. We need to do a lot more, especially financially. I even asked the governor what we can do, and the governor said this is a financial issue. We need more money, and in general the school needs more money. If you look at history there is obviously a need for reparations. In a way, affirmative action is called our reparations, but it's really not taking it as far as it needs to go. In a way, the diversity plan is our reparations, but in a way, it is limited in its scope and its accountability. It really has few advantages and it needs many more advantages if we hope to get over that hump.

Kammerzelt: I agree; it's a step. I believe that just that step needs to be held accountable. It is a compromise, but it's a step in the right direction.

**OC: If you guys were elected would you see the administration more as partners or as people you would negotiate against?**

Schwoefferman: Obviously we are going to be standing up to them on the behalf of students. However, being the nature of politics, you have to be cordial and you have to work together on these issues and not completely alienate yourself on these issues because the administration really has all the power on this campus. Obviously we'll be working very close with Dave Frohnmayer, the president, who I've met on several occasions. He makes a lot of decisions, but he is also held accountable to Oregon and the Oregon system so we aren't fighting him. We are fighting Oregon and its funding in many ways. However, when issues come up like Westmoreland, like Martin Summers, like the College of Education, we need to hold them accountable and the best way we can do that is by organizing students. We need to be on the table with them; we cannot be subordinates to them. It has to be a relationship that is give and take.

Kammerzelt: I think in politics you are always going to be

working against the people who are developing policies, but that doesn't make them enemies. Personally, I view the people at Johnson Hall as allies. That doesn't mean I won't work against them, but in the end they're our allies because I need them and they need me.

**OC: Are there any platform points for your campaign that you want to talk about?**

Schwoefferman: One of the things we feel that is important for this campus is the freshman population. We feel that they are group that always seems to be overlooked and very underrepresented, especially in the realm of the ASUO. We'd really like more accessibility between the freshman and the ASUO. This could be a brief presentation about what the ASUO is and what it does, but we feel they are a large population on campus and a lot of policies and structure affects them but they aren't necessarily aware of it.

**"OC"**

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which one  
you would  
pick**

**does she?**

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ted

# Niedermeyer

born in santa monica california, ted niedermeyer moved north to oregon during the great cali-  
formian migration of 1973. raised by wolves and schooled in the ninja arts, niedermeyer be-  
gan his college education at lcc's character assassination program. a savage mescaline trip  
midway through his third year left him with a ravaged grade point average, and the abiding  
suspicion that lcc is a demon-run institution, dedicated to "the harvest of our precious bodily  
fluids." since arriving at the u of o, niedermeyer has participated in a number of extracurricu-  
lar activities, which showcase the talents and abilities which he hopes to bring to the position  
of asuo executive. after turning a tidy profit in the prefabricated term paper market, nied-  
meyer leveraged his newfound wealth into a hostile takeover of the student health center,  
which allowed him to inflate std treatment costs through his "hmo+s for ho+s" health plan.  
having passed god on the forbes 500 list, niedermeyer then turned towards public service,  
first honing his debate skills by becoming the first uo student to shoot and kill an opponent  
during a sanctioned forensics competition. as editor-in-chief of the oregon commentator, nie-  
dermeyer has single-handedly raised the fair market price for nearly every available psycho-  
tropic drug in the eugene area to go up, and indirectly caused the largest drug war in mexican  
history. his interests include polo, sex, the music of ghostface killah, and "a bit of the old  
ultraviolence from time to time."

**OC: Thank you for agreeing to this interview, Mr. Niedermeyer.**

Niedermeyer: Thanks for the opportunity, Mr. Niedermeyer.

**OC: What student groups are you affiliated with?**

Niedermeyer: Well, as you know, I am Editor-in-Chief of the Oregon Commentator. This has given me a unique opportunity to work with the movers and shakers on this campus, and mercilessly mock every one of them. I would certainly bring this experience to my presidency, if elected.

**OC: Great. Before we go any further, can I just say that you are an incredibly sexy man... how do you do it?**

Niedermeyer: What can I say... the good lord has blessed me. My only trick is spending lots of time by myself in front of a computer screen in a poorly lit office.

**OC: I'll have to try that sometime. How do you feel about the current level of the Incidental Fee?**

Niedermeyer: It's a real problem. If we want to keep the fee low, we need to really think outside the box, and as President that's exactly what I would do. What I really want to do is cut as many programs as possible from the Incidental Fee and force them to fend for themselves. Students bring a ton of money to campus, and what does it go to? Rent, tuition, local bars and drug dealers, that's who. We need to force groups to go after this money as if their lives depended on it, because under my rule, they would. Take the Urban Farm, for example: by cutting off all funding they would be forced to do something productive, like construct a marijuana plantation or poppy field. Not only would they become entirely self-sufficient, but they would also bring in a huge new income source to the ASUO. Student publications such as the Commentator and the Insurgent would also have their budgets cut, thereby forcing them to begin printing more profitable content, like swimsuit spreads. In fact, why not explore an entirely pornographic format? I would also put the so called "activist" groups to work for the ASUO... as pick-pockets and identity thieves. God helps those who help themselves, and it's about time the ASUO started turning a damn profit.

**OC: Wow, that's fresh. So simple, and yet so innovative. What would you do with the revenue? Subsidize textbooks? New bike racks?**

Niedermeyer: Hell no! First of all, I'd take a 60% cut of the gross... this kind of bold leadership doesn't come for free. Otherwise, I think it's important to see the ASUO develop a security apparatus, specifically through build-

ing up street militias. Perhaps if we have time next year, we could start a weapons of mass destruction program. I think we all understand why we need these capabilities.

**OC: Um... we do?**

Niedermeyer: (sighs) The War on Douchebaggery? Hello? Look, I get sick of having to explain this over and over, so here it is. Students on this campus have been under attack by the forces of douchebaggery for a long time, and it's time we fought back. This is why it is so important for the ASUO to build up its military capability. As it is, the militant wing of the Douchebag International has been running roughshod over campus for too long. Sure, they call themselves "The Department of Public Safety," but that is no reason to continue their reign of terror. I am all for driving them from our lands with military force, perhaps with a well placed daisy-cutter on their offices. Other targets for future airstrikes include OLCC headquarters, Bell Real Estate, the Gateway Mall, the Eugene Weekly and OSPIRG' state headquarters.

**OC: So, this is serious for you?**

Niedermeyer: It's serious for everybody. You are either with the Douchebags, or you are against them. There's no room for middle ground in this. Do you want to see Toby Keith attending Autzen home games next year? Do you want Dennis Kucinich lurking around campus? Have you ever gotten an MIP? Listen buddy, freedom from douchebags isn't free... you have to break some rules and kick some ass. I'm not going to lie, we might even have to torture some people. If it makes the Party Patrol think twice about busting parties, we'll have made some progress... and besides, waterboarding is fun. Just ask Khalid Sheikh Mohammed. Motorboating is great too, but that's another story.

**OC: Yuck. As ASUO Executive would you be viewpoint neutral?**

Niedermeyer: No. Basically, I'd crush my enemies. The great thing about fighting douchebaggery is that I can basically accuse anyone I want of being a douchebag, and bingo, there's a reason to see them shipped off to our secret detention facility located on 40 Island in the Willamette river. I guess you could say that I'd be more of a "hands on" kind of president.

**OC: Wow, that's terrifying. Well, I guess my last question concerns your lack of a running mate. What should voters read into this?**

Niedermeyer: Well, I had hordes of sycophants who wanted to be my running mate, but I don't need them. What I do need is money, and if I'm elected I'll simply collect both stipends. Don't worry, the Constitution Court will have my back on that one.

**"OC"**



# richard wile

i hear words like \*beauty\* and \*handsomeness\* and \*incredibly chiseled features\* and for me that\*s like a vanity of self-absorption that i try to steer clear of. i\*m twenty years old: i\*m going to graduate in a year and after that, who knows. but i can tell you this, i believe that student government matters in your life: and the most important thing to me in this election and this school year is that you get involved. participate in student government, even the simple act of voting sends a powerful message to the people that decide your future. vote, and let\*s make life better together.

### campaign summary:

i believe that student government matters in the lives of students. in the last 15 years, we\*ve seen serious increases in our tuition here at the uo and i fear that this trend will only continue. the time has come for the student body to get involved. by voting and demonstrating to the university that we\*re not apathetic about our education, we can make life better together.

**OC: What groups have you been affiliated with during your time at the University of Oregon?**

Nile: I attend Campus Crusade for Christ functions on and off.

**OC: What do you see as the most important issue facing the ASUO right now?**

Nile: It just seems like, from my perspective, two months ago I didn't know who anybody in the ASUO was, I didn't know who the president was, none of my friends knew the answers to those questions, and that's kind of ridiculous. So, my goal in running is to generate interest and participation... to get some people to vote.

**OC: Are you running with a slate?**

Nile: My platform revolves around the idea that student government matters, and that student participation is really important, because the current [ASUO] president [Jared Axelrod] was elected by something like 800 votes, in a state--where 60% of the population votes--so it's no small wonder that when the student body president speaks at the state legislature he doesn't carry any significant weight. It's no small wonder that tuition always goes up, and the president doesn't ever seem to get anything done at that level.

**OC: So, you see the ASUO Executive as being about representing students on the legislative level?**

Nile: I see the validity in some of the smaller--not smaller issues, but the issues that, say, involve student organizations, but ultimately, every student pays tuition, and every student deals with those larger issues. Tuition has been increasing like crazy for the last 15 years, and that's not going to stop without change.

**OC: What are your feelings about the current level of the incidental fee?**

Nile: The thing about the incidental fee is that it wouldn't be that big of a deal for students if tuition weren't as high as it is. If students were paying \$2,000 per year [for tuition], which is extraordinarily low, paying \$600 wouldn't be a big deal. Tuition is high, and the incidental fee... well, I don't know if "blown out of proportion" is the right word... essentially it gets back to this issue of the state always spending less on the University of Oregon and the students having to make up for it with the additional fees. With the incidental fee, it just seems kind of like the students are bearing the brunt of this fee. The University of Oregon is providing services that the students are paying for, and it seems to be an avenue by which the University can escape assisting students. As far as allocation goes, I understand that the PFC has a strong say in that and that the executive branch puts his or her two cents in, but ulti-

mately there's a bigger issue and that's tuition.

**OC: What action would you take on that?**

Nile: I think that, like I said, it gets back to participation. When you get students participating, and you speak for students, rather than for a group of constituents--say 800 voters--that says something. The answer I don't think can be solved necessarily in a year, y'know with the tuition question, there's a long-term solution, and I think it begins with students participating and students voting. A student body president who is willing to listen to the student body, instead of representing or focusing on smaller issues, is willing to embrace the student body and willing to try to make that change or reverse this process of student fees increasing every two, three years as they have been.

**OC: How do you feel about viewpoint neutrality?**

Nile: Yeah, that's interesting... I think the hardest way to convince someone of something you believe is to argue with them. The way you make discussion happen, the way you accomplish change in that matter, is you remain open. It's great to have an opinion and a personal set of beliefs, but to make dialog happen, and to think long-term, and to have elevated thinking, you have to be willing to approach someone else's beliefs, someone else's system with an open mind, and with at least a willingness to work with that person. Viewpoint neutrality doesn't seem to happen on the large scale, on the national level, on both sides--right and left--and I think it would be interesting if the student body could go against that pattern.

**OC: What are your feelings on diversity as an issue on campus?**

Nile: I'm a transfer student, and the school I transferred from down in California had even fewer minorities represented, and I think there, at Cal Poly, like at the University of Oregon, the school sort of reflects the community. If you look at Eugene at large, it's not a very diverse community. There are certain races, that, they're minorities, but they're a larger minority, then you have Caucasians, and well, white people in general... I guess that's how you'd put that. I think the way to solve the diversity problem, that's a big question. How do you make a city more diverse, let alone a University? I think by demonstrating to students that are interested that at the University of Oregon it's not like they're different... that everyone here is treated the same... we don't think in racialized terms, because... it's like viewpoint neutrality; it works in the same way. If you don't racialize yourself and you don't think in terms of black and white, to put it simply, it's easier to express that to people, and when people see that, they say "Ok, this is a place where I won't feel uncomfortable because I'm not Caucasian, or because I'm not, y'know, whatever you want..."

**OC: PFC reform is something a lot of candidates are talking about. What's your take on that issue?**

Nile: The PFC has an interesting role. They allocate all the money generated by the incidental fee... ideally, that's what they're doing. That's a job that's tough because we're here four or five years and we want to see change happen immediately, and something like the PFC reform... the solution comes from a long process. The thing with an issue like that, is that it doesn't have to happen on the public level because it's difficult when you're representing a lot of people or when you're representing regular students; you want to see things happen right away. The nice thing with PFC reform, or anything on that level, is that you can take your time and you can be smart about it. I don't have a good answer to that question, and I'm not sure that there are a lot of people that have good answers.

**OC: Maybe you'd like to talk about your status as an ASUO outsider?**

Nile: Sure. Like I said, I didn't even think about this presidency [run] or the ASUO until a couple of months ago. One of the senators in charge of allotting the [over-realized] surplus was talking in a sociology lecture, describing that [process], and I just started thinking "I don't even know who the president is, I don't know who any of the senators are, and these people are making decisions that affect my life as a student," and I decided to see if I could do something about that. It's tough being an outsider, in that I don't have a good handle on the nit-picky details; they're important, but I'm a typical student, and speaking for typical students, it's not something they think about. It goes back to my belief that there are bigger issues, like tuition, that everyone relates to. You and I pay quite a bit of money for our education, and I want to do something about that.

**OC: You are running without a vice-president... what should voters read into that?**

Nile: My friends are busy people. I'm friends with RAs and I'm friends with people who are graduating: These are the worst people to ask to be your running mate. Ultimately, as the deadline approached, I didn't have a good candidate lined up. I had people who would have run if I had asked, but I sort of came to the realization that I didn't need a running mate. It's actually not required. It means more work for me, but ultimately, that's what it boils down to.

**"OC"**

**the oc's  
voter's guide**

**no one likes to make a decision for themselves, especially when it involves the asuo. don't worry, we have your back on this one. here are our picks for each contested seat and ballot measure.**



# asuo president and vice president

## our pick: hamilton and papailiou

not necessarily an easy choice. our heart is with niedermeyer, but let's face it: the man has clearly lost the plot. mcclain and sunowen have the lobbying experience, but are weak on campus issues. lesser and wood are simply out of their league, as is the Nile campaign. schwoeffermann and kammerzelt offer an outsider's alternative, but lack the credibility to really get things done. hamilton and papailiou offer the rare combination of leadership credentials and reform-minded policies that the asuo so badly needs. though far from perfect, this ticket is the best compromise for students who support meaningful yet attainable reform. rosenberg and ostfield come in a close second, and would also make a capable executive.

## \*ballot measures\*

### \*climate commitment\*

question: should university president david frohnmayer sign the american college and university president's climate commitment?

our take: sure, why not? it's free, it looks good, and it keeps the hippies happy. besides, the frohn will probably sign it anyway.

### \*rec center funding\*

question: do you support having the student recreation center becoming a separate entity no longer funded by the incidental fee? overseen by the student recreation center advisory board, a group of students elected from the student body at large in order to maintain current services provided by the student recreation center?

our take: please pass this.

### \*book exchange\*

question: shall the associated students of the university student government explore the creation of an official campus textbook exchange?

our take: yes. more competition is always a good thing, and lcc has a very successful program like this. it isn't a silver bullet, but it's a start.

## who's running: pfc, emu board, and adfc senate seats

### asuo programs finance senators

seat 1: matt rose, kate davis,  
sharanya kanikkannan, jamie sho-  
lian, keith basset, opey freedle.

seat 3: nickschutz, neil brown, wate  
benjamin, shaban ryan

### emu board finance senators

seat 4: kevin glenn, kate jones, os-  
car guerra, julia tienson, evan klei-  
man

seat 6: eduardo dawson, samantha  
brodey, diego hernandez

### athletic department finance senators

seat 7: franklin algeria, brendan  
good, michael reta, brice webster,  
alex liskey, karen trippe

seat 9: donnie kim, brennan  
pothetes, kari herinckx, kendall tylee

# our picks

## seat 1: matt rose

reasonable, independent, and well qualified.  
rose will be on pfc anyway, so why not make  
him a senator?

## seat 3: neil brown

by far, the best candidate for this seat. an out-  
sider who is smart and personable enough to  
get the job done.

## seat 4: oscar guerra

experienced and well connected. can be  
preachy, and a bit too cozy with groups, but  
undeniably a leader.

## seat 6: samantha brodey

all the candidates for this seat are newbies, but  
brodey is the only one with apparent plans for  
the emu.

## seat 7: karen trippe

a moderate swing-voter on this year's senate,  
trippe could become a real leader next year.

## seat 9: kari herinckx

deeply involved in student unions, yet very rea-  
sonable. we don't always agree with her, but  
we respect her as a leader.

## seat 11: flip a coin

one has a colbert quote on his facebook profile, while the other has mitch hedberg. you decide.

## seat 13: flip a coin

another "improvement movement" and "campaign for change" deadlock. we've ruled out ung for her sympathetic stance on bridget jones's diary.

## seat 15: noor rajabzadeh

while bode would also be an excellent pick, we would rather we write for us next year. pick rajabzadeh for the win-win scenario.

## seat 17: flip a coin

yeah, we know we said we would do all of the thinking for you, but we just don't see much of a difference here. all we know is that we'll miss jackie justice.

## aspac: jeremy elner

rec center advisory board: emily cox, tony shallot, and greg black

adfc at-large: rob morse

pfc at-large: jacob brennan

emu board at-large: chess patricolo and tyler scandalios

# who's running: academic senate and pfc, emu board, and adfc at-large seats

## academic senators

seat 11: jammin burchard, lee warnecke

seat 13: max brockman, dan feldman, hollina ung

seat 15: tom bode, nicloe tomlin, noor rajabzadeh, samantha brotman, steven wilsey

seat 17: dan barrera, kevin parks

## presidential advisory council

jeremy elner, brandon sanders, mary evans

## rec center advisory board

patrick siemon, emily cox, tony shallot, greg black, carter chapman

## adfc at-large

rob morse, samantha evans

## pfc at-large

jacob brennan, zack basaraba

## emu board at-large

emma kallaway, chess patricolo, tyler scandalios

# meet your local bartender



We sat down for a chat with Rennie's bartender Charlie Dorst because we had to have something to fill the vice section this issue. First one to finish the Mexican yeast infection wins!

OC: How long have you been a bartender?

Dorst: A year and a half

OC: Do you see bartending as a career or just another job?

Dorst: Its just fun and pays the bills.

OC: What brought you into bartending?

Dorst: I started working here as a cook for two years and then when I turned 21 I started bartending. I got pushed to the front.

OC: Did you know anyone who worked here?

Dorst: Yeah my mom was actually a bartender here and my dad was a manager and my sister worked here as well.

OC: Cool. So in a way Rennie's is more than just a bar...

Dorst: Yeah. I mean I have been hanging out here since I was a little kid. John the owner is like my godfather. It's my family.



charlie  
dorst: just  
carrying on  
the family  
tradition

Dorst: I don't really hate making a drink but I hate being asked for a complicated drink when I have like a million people waiting to be served. Like during a football game when girls come up and ask for a couple lemon drops or something like that. I am like "Oh please, come on!"

**OC: What's the question you hate most being asked at the bar?**

Dorst: I think the funniest is when people actually walk in and ask if its ok to not be 21. They come in and say, "I just wanna hang out, I swear I won't drink".

**OC: Give 5 qualities that are really important to have in a bar.**

Dorst: Welcoming, and warm. Not stuck up. A fun, party atmosphere. Bar food is also really important.

**OC: What other bar in town do you go to?**

Dorst: I would rather be camping and drinking a beer in the dirt anytime than a bar.

**OC: What is your favorite night at the bar?**

Dorst: Thursdays and Sundays, because on Sundays it's quiet, chill, and there is free pool, and it's the only night all the bartenders have off, and Thursdays are wild enough that its really fun but not overly wild that it's, like, annoying.

**OC: What makes Rennie's the ideal bar?**

Dorst: Its really fun and its not the kind of place that you have to get dressed up for, but you can if you want. Its just one of those kind of places. You can really just do whatever you want. Its big enough where you can find your own little corner with your friends or you can just be in the pool room taking shots with everyone. It has the ability to be calm but it also has the ability to be out of control.

"OC"

**OC: What is your favorite drink?**

Dorst: Jack and Coke. I like to keep it simple.

**OC: What is your favorite drink to make?**

Dorst: I actually really like to make Rennie's Lemonades because it kinda looks cool. We have a whole bunch of bottles in our hands, but they are relatively simple in ingredients.

**OC: What's the weirdest drink you ever had to make in the bar?**

Dorst: Probably a Mexican Yeast Infection because it looks gross.

**OC: What the hell is in that?**

Dorst: Tequila, Tobasco, and a dollop of mayonnaise. People ask for it on 21ers. And when they do I say if your friend pukes, your cleaning it up!

**OC: What drink do you hate making?**

# Spew ... and the price of democracy

## on goodnight sweet prints



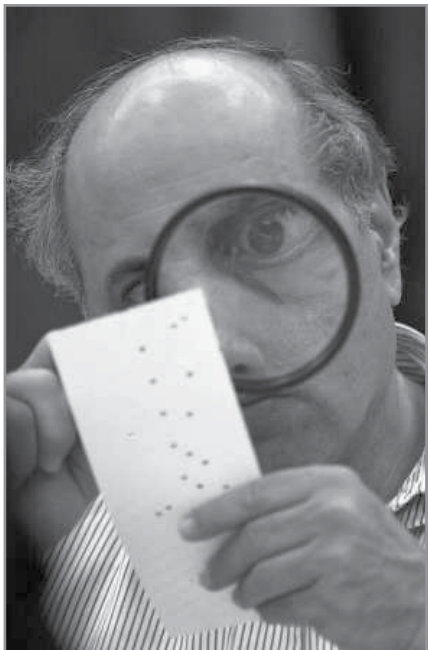
"Another thing I hate about farewell columns is how the writer often criticizes everything he can because he's struck by a sudden sense of freedom-by-way-of-anarchy-by-way-of-moving-out-of-town."

-ODE Columnist "The Other White Matt" Tiffany criticizes criticism in farewell columns in his farewell column, proving once and for all that it is possible to be both "meta" and dumb at the same time.

"And what's the deal with Britney's hair? That's the kind of writing that'll earn you a first-class ticket to The Commentator's "Spew" page. And while it would be fun to make spew, it's not something I plan on doing in my final column, which I should probably get to before I surpass my inch count."

-Ibid. Newsflash for MTiff: acknowledging that your column is trite and ripe for mockery doesn't make things any better. Well, now you've been spewed... your mom will be so proud.

## on it's raining hate crimes



"As University students and community members filed into the EMU Ballroom, murmurs about the runway's professional and authentic look could be overheard. The room filled up just as the show was scheduled to start. After about 20 minutes had passed and no one had entered the stage or made any announcement, suddenly, from all angles, there appeared to be hundreds of purple camera flashes. It was the fire alarm."

-Talia Schmidt breathlessly covering the LGBTQA drag show in the Old Dirty Emerald. What happens next? Do the sprinklers come on for a spirited rendition of "It's Raining Men?"

"Sexual Wellness Advocacy Team member and University sophomore Rebecca Sprinson speculated that someone pulled the fire alarm as a hate crime against the LGBTQA. 'This happens every year,' Sprinson said. 'It's homophobia.'"

-Ibid. Wow, I guess the U of O is a hate-filled cesspool of intolerance...

"It was later discovered that the alarm went off mistakenly and that it was not a hate crime, LGBTQA finance coordinator Jen French and the Department of Public Safety said."

-Ibid. Wait, scratch that... I guess we're back to just being a cesspool of incompetence. Well that's not sexy at all, is it?

# on how not to get our endorsement

"I have to pick Hemingway due to his exciting life! The man traveled across the world and wrote one of the most amazing novels I have ever read: War and Peace. Besides, Fitzgerald is a little too wordy in his writing. I really prefer Hemingway's aggressive style."

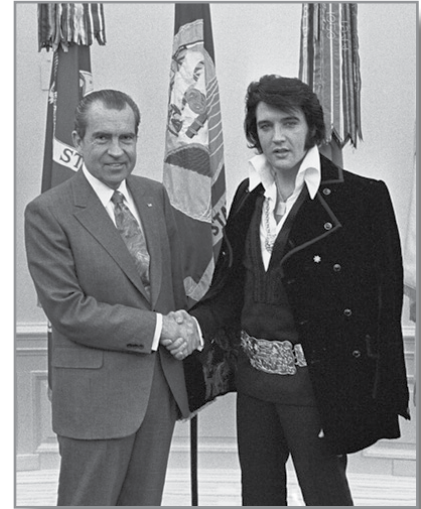
*-Senate Candidate Nick Schultz declaring his preference for Hemingway over Fitzgerald in his online interview at oregoncommentator.com. Tisk-tisk, Everyone knows that Anna Karenina was Hemingway's magnum opus.*

"I find it disturbing that you, as Editor in Chief of the Oregon Commentator, are powerless to influence the content of your magazine or to advise the Board of situations that could hold the magazine liable. False accusations and comments are Slander and can be interpreted as Defamation of Character."

*-Ibid, whining to the Editor about the fact we didn't censor comments mocking him on the Commentator blog. Yeah, just because you capitalize your accusations doesn't mean they are any less ridiculous.*

"No man who protests as much as you do could be well hung, your just to good with the excuses, 'little man'. I have dated my share small men, and you talk the talk."

*-Blog commenter "Amy" gets all psychoanalytical on Schultz. Wow, just one more thing to get to before surpassing your "inch count."*



# on open your mouth and spew

"have you ever gone to a hippies house and noticed that they dont flush the toilet after they take a wizz?"

*-David Flaherty in his totally unpunctuated "open your mouth and think" piece in the Insurgent. Um, no... why?*

"then when you go out to the living room to ask them about it they cant answer because theyre sucking down a carton of ice cream? with the amount of water that could be saved by not purchasing that ice cream, that hippie could flush the toilet more times in a day than he could ever possibly shit and piss."

*-Ibid. A solid point. Who but the dirtiest of hippies would choose ice cream over sanitation?*

"you can get all bent out of shape and tell me i have no statistics to back up my argument but im not putting them in this article because number one: there's no space and number two: its an alternative college newspaper and im not getting paid to research."

*-Ibid. I'd be snarky about this, but... well, you heard the man.*



The Wonder of  TRUTH

*Christian*  
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THE UNGODLY  
GAIN CONTROL!  
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